

March 3, 1976

have gone over these bills, these various bills that have anything to do with Nebraska throughout the whole state. They have voted in opposition to this bill. So there is your farmers and ranchers and, perhaps, some of the feeders, too. Now the taxes that you might save or the taxes on the land under water, in the several counties that I checked, the taxes on the land under the water is about $3\frac{1}{2}$, 2 to $3\frac{1}{2}$, cents per acre. I don't see how you could... you couldn't survey your land, you couldn't have the assessor do the work for the money that you would save. I am kind of like Senator Schmit. I think this bill has been debated back and forth enough. I think it should be killed here and now and gotten out of the way and I call for the question.

SPEAKER BURBACH: Senator Kime has closed. The question is, shall LB 834 be indefinitely postponed? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 12 nays.

SPEAKER BURBACH: Motion fails...no, motion carries. I am sorry. Motion carried. LB 833.

CLERK: LB 833 introduced by Senator Stoney. Read title. There are no Committee amendments or other amendments pending.

SPEAKER BURBACH: The Chair recognizes Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, LB 833 is a teachers certification bill. I was the introducer last year of LB 122 which was passed on Final Reading, later vetoed by the Governor, and we failed in our override attempt. If you subtract 122 from 833, you come up with 711, and being a gambler, I think this is a pretty good omen on 833. This bill is introduced at the request of the Nebraska State Education Association and hopefully it is the final step in placing college graduates in all teaching positions in the State of Nebraska. Now let me explain the difference between the unacceptable version 122 and 833. 122, last year, would have permitted the State Board of Education to require a baccalaureate degree. All that 833 does is to require that the individual continue to upgrade their teaching skills. I would like to give you a little history on this bill and give you some indication of why I believe it is necessary. In 1953, there was a dire shortage of teachers, not only in the State of Nebraska but throughout the United States. In Nebraska, the situation was severe and critical due to the fact that we had 6276 school districts. Now LB 833 is, I believe, the last step in a process which eventually will lead to full certification of all teachers in our state. From a standpoint of history, in 1953, this Legislature required that rural school teachers earned a minimum of twelve hours to teach in the state. In 1955, this was upgraded to set a minimum requirement of forty hours. Again in 1959, it was increased to make that minimum sixty hours. Now the conditions that might have justified Nebraska's having the lowest standards